

MEAN LAKE LEVELS DURING FEBRUARY, 1925

By UNITED STATES LAKE SURVEY

[Detroit, Mich., Mar. 6, 1925]

The following data are reported in the "Notice to Mariners" of the above date:

Data	Lakes ¹			
	Superior	Michigan and Huron	Erie	Ontario
Mean level during February, 1925:				
Above mean sea level at New York.....	Feet 600.96	Feet 578.24	Feet 570.49	Feet 244.41
Above or below—				
Mean stage of January, 1925.....	-0.16	±0.00	-0.13	+0.19
Mean stage of February, 1924.....	-.33	-.52	-.82	-.44
Average stage for February last 10 years.....	-.85	-1.50	-.96	-.78
Highest recorded February stage.....	-2.52	-4.48	-3.26	-3.26
Lowest recorded February stage.....	+.20	-.52	-.14	+.58
Average relation of the February level to:				
January level.....		(?)	-.1	(?)
March level.....		-.1	-.2	-.2

¹ Lake St. Clair's level: In February, 1925, 572.71 feet.

² Practically no difference.

EFFECT OF WEATHER ON CROPS AND FARMING OPERATIONS FEBRUARY, 1925

By J. B. KINCER

General summary.—The persistently mild weather that prevailed during nearly the whole of February permitted much outdoor work, especially in central and southern States. In the South, however, conditions were rather diversified as to moisture, as the soil was too wet for proper working during much of the month in parts of the Southeast, while it was too dry in the west Gulf area. Corn planting advanced in Florida, and there was some seeding done in the extreme lower Mississippi Valley, but in southern Texas seeding was being delayed because of insufficient moisture. There was some cotton planted in southern Texas, and much ground was prepared in other portions of the belt.

In the interior valley States a limited amount of plowing for spring crops was reported, and some spring grain was seeded as far north as Virginia and Kansas, but as a rule plowing had not become general in these sections at the close of the month. Vegetation made unusually rapid advance in the South, and winter grains began to show some green as far north as the middle Atlantic area and the southern portions of the Winter-Wheat Belt.

Small grains.—There was not much snow protection during the month in the Winter-Wheat Belt, but at

the same time temperatures were mild and rather uniform and there was no widespread complaint of heaving; moisture was sufficient, except in some western and southwestern portions of the belt where it was too dry, particularly in north-central Kansas, central and western Oklahoma, and in Texas. In the more western and northwestern portions of the country, and also in the South, conditions were generally favorable for fall-sown grains, though there was considerable complaint of winter killing in parts of the far Northwest. At the close of the month the seeding of spring oats had commenced to south-central Kansas, the extreme lower Ohio Valley, and southeastern Virginia, at about the average date.

Ranges, pastures, and livestock.—In the southwestern grazing districts there was insufficient precipitation to materially improve the range, which continued in poor to only fair condition quite generally, including the extreme southern Great Plains. In the northern portions of the Great Plains, the Rocky Mountains, and the Pacific coast area conditions were more satisfactory, with pasturage much improved in California by reason of the more or less generous rainfall. The mild weather favorably affected livestock in the great western grazing districts, except for the cold wave about the close of the month which caused considerable suffering. In the central and eastern portions of the country grass lands were favorably affected by the weather of the month.

Fruit.—Influenced by the prevailing warmth, early fruit trees were blooming in the Gulf coast districts at the close of the month, and in the interior buds were beginning to swell northward to the lower Ohio Valley and in the east in sheltered places to Pennsylvania. This was a premature and unfavorable development and was causing considerable apprehension as to possible later frost damage. There was some local frost injury in the South, but in general this was not material. Citrus developed well in California, while the trees put on much new growth in Florida, except satsumas in the northwestern portion.

Miscellaneous crops.—Truck and miscellaneous crops made favorable advance in the Southern States, except where it was too dry in the west Gulf area and where frost injury occurred soon after the middle of the month in some more southeastern districts. The seeding of early potatoes advanced to eastern Oklahoma and southeastern Virginia and truck crops developed normally in south Atlantic sections. The latter part of the month was fairly favorable for maple sugar making in the upper Ohio Valley States.